GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:418
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
MMS FACILITY
Khanna Shri Avinash Rai

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether MMS facility has been provided in mobile phones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some countries have banned this facility;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the MMS facility is being misused;

(f) if so, whether the Government proposes to ban the MMS facility; and
(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 418 FOR 24TH AUGUST, 2005 REGARDING MMS FACILITY.

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Some Mobile Phone handsets support Multi Media Messaging Service (MMS) facility. MMS runs over General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) based mobile network. Many mobile service providers are offering MMS facility. In this facility mobile subscribers can send MMS from mobile to mobile or to e-mail ID. Some operators have also provided the facility to deposit pictures onto an online web album by sending a picture via MMS.

(c) & (d) No such information is available with Department of Telecommunications.

(e) Some of the press reports indicate that there were some instances where subscribers misused MMS facility.

(f) & (g) No, Sir. Technology development is an ongoing process for the benefit of the society. Its use or misuse largely depends on the person using the technology. Data in electronic form is legally recognized through IT Act 2000. Based on the nature of damage caused by the abuse of data, existing legal provisions including those under IPC/Cr.PC are available to deal with the crime. In addition, mobile telephone service licence also provides that `The LICENSEE shall take necessary measures to prevent objectionable, obscene, un-authorised or any other content, messages or communications infringing copyright, intellectual property etc., in any form, from being carried on his network, consistent with the established laws of the country. Once specific instances of such infringement are reported to the LICENSEE by the enforcement agencies, the LICENSEE shall ensure that the carriage of such material on his network is prevented immediately.`